AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A review facility for providing a document for collaborative review by a plurality of reviewers and collecting comments from reviewers, said review facility comprising:

preparation means for preparing software source code a document for interactive collaborative review;

means for making said prepared software source code documents available for interactive collaborative review, said prepared software source code said documents being independently reviewable in said interactive collaborative review;

means for collecting comments on blocks of text in said prepared software source code documents from said interactive collaborative review; and

means for distributing collected said comments from said interactive collaborative review, wherein distributed said comments sufficiently provide any collaborating reviewers attending a subsequent formal review meeting with awareness of a particular condition with respect to said interactive collaboratively reviewed said software source code that said comments may be addressed in said interactive collaborative review prior to said formal review meeting, such that further action is unnecessary at the time of said formal review with respect to said particular condition and each corresponding said comment; and

means for conducting a formal review, said formal review considering previously distributed comments from said interactive collaborative review.

2. (currently amended) A review facility as in claim 1 wherein the means for preparing said software source code document for interactive review comprises:

selection means for selecting and retrieving said software source code document; and

means for formatting said retrieved software source code said documents.

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3. (currently amended) A review facility as in claim 2 wherein the means for formatting said software source code ~~documents~~ identifies individual said blocks of text within said software source code ~~documents~~, said interactive collaborative review providing comments on ones of said individual blocks of text.

4. (currently amended) A review facility as in claim 3 where said ~~document is a software source code block, said~~ individual blocks of text are individual lines of said source code, and said formatting means further builds a comment file, collected comments on code lines being contained in said comment file.

5. (previously presented) A review facility as in claim 3 where said formatting means further builds a comment file, collected comments on blocks of code being contained in said comment file.

6. (currently amended) A review facility as in claim 1 wherein the means for collecting comments comprises:

means for providing said software source code ~~documents~~ to collaborating reviewers; and

reviewer selection means for selecting said software source code ~~documents~~ for review responsive to reviewer selection.

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9. (currently amended) A review facility as in claim 1, wherein said means for distributing collected said comments makes collected said comments available for further interactive collaborative review, and said review facility further comprises:

~~said means for conducting said formal review comprises~~ means for presenting for consideration collected comments from said interactive collaborative review, said collected comments being previously distributed by said means for distributing collected comments to identified collaborating reviewers participating in a [[said]] formal review.

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10. (currently amended) A method of reviewing a document being prepared for distribution, said method comprising the steps of:

      a)   preparing a document for interactive review;

      b)   making said prepared document available for said interactive review and receiving comments on said prepared document from said interactive review; and

      c)   conducting a formal review meeting of said interactively-reviewed document with a plurality of reviewers, whereby one or more of the previously provided said comments sufficiently provides attending reviewers awareness of a particular condition with respect to said interactively-reviewed document that said comments comment may be addressed in said interactive review prior to said formal review meeting, such that further action is unnecessary at the time of said formal review with respect to said particular condition and each corresponding [[said]] comment.

11. (previously presented) A method as in claim 10 wherein the step (a) of preparing said document for interactive review comprises the steps of:

      i)   retrieving said document for review;

      ii)   formatting said document, individual blocks of text being identified for comment in said formatted document.

12. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein said document is source code and said formatting step ii) identifies individual lines of source code for comments and further, builds a comment file, comments provided on said lines of source code being contained in said comment file.

13. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein said document is a text file and said formatting step ii) builds a comment file, comments provided on said blocks of text being contained in said comment file.

14. (previously presented) A method as in claim 10 wherein each occurrence of said interactive review in the step (b) of making the prepared document available comprises the steps of:

      i)   selecting said document;

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    ii)   reviewing comments on said selected document;

    iii)   determining whether said selected document warrants additional comments;

    iv)   distributing warranted additional comments on said selected document; and

    v)   repeating steps (i-iv) until all documents for review have been selected.

15. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 wherein said document is source code and said blocks of text in said document are lines in said source code, comments on any of said lines being contained in a comment file.

16. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 wherein said document is a text file and comments on any of said blocks of text are contained in a comment file.

17. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 wherein documents are stored in a central repository and the step (i) of selecting said document comprises connecting over the Internet to said central repository and accessing said document.

18. (currently amended) A method as in claim 10 wherein returned said comments are available for display upon receipt.

19. (currently amended) A computer program product for presenting a document for collaborative review by a plurality of reviewers and collecting comments from reviewers, said computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said computer readable program code comprising:

    computer program code means for preparing a document for collaborative review;

    computer program code means for collecting comments from said collaborative review;

    computer program code means for distributing collected comments to reviewers identified for attendance at a subsequent formal review meeting, wherein distributed said comments sufficiently provide any identified said reviewers with awareness of a particular condition with respect to said interactive collaboratively reviewed document that said comments may be addressed in said interactive collaborative review prior to said formal review meeting,

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such that further action is unnecessary at the time of said formal review with respect to said
particular condition and each corresponding comment; and

  computer program code means for providing ~~presenting~~ distributed comments for said
formal review ~~of prepared documents, said formal review considering said distributed comments,~~
~~whereby formal reviewers participating in said formal review are aware of said distributed~~
~~comments.~~

20. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 19 wherein the computer
program code means for preparing said document for interactive collaborative review comprises:

  computer program code selection means for selecting and retrieving said document; and

  computer program code means for formatting retrieved said documents.

21. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 20 wherein the computer
program code means for formatting said document identifies individual said blocks of text within
said document, reviewers providing comments on ones of said individual blocks of text.

22. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 21 where said document is a
software source code block, said individual blocks of text are individual lines of said source
code, and said computer program code means for formatting further builds a comment file,
collected comments on code lines being contained in said comment file.

23. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 21 where said document is a
text file, and said computer program code means for formatting further builds a comment file,
collected comments on blocks of code being contained in said comment file.

24. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 19 wherein the computer
program code means for collecting comments comprises:

  computer program code means for providing documents to reviewers; and

  computer program code means for selecting said documents for review responsive to
reviewer selection.

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25. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 24 wherein the document being reviewed is source code for software and blocks of text of said source code are individual lines of code.

26. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 24 wherein the document being reviewed is a text file.

27. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions, the plurality of instructions including instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

a)   prepare a document for interactive review;

b)   make said prepared document available to a plurality of interactive reviewers for interactively commenting on blocks of text;

c)   receive comments from ones of said plurality of interactive reviewers; and

d)   present said document and received said comments for a formal review meeting, whereby one or more of the previously provided comments sufficiently provides attending reviewers awareness of a particular condition with respect to said document that said comments comment may be addressed in said document prior to said formal review meeting, such that further action is unnecessary at the time of said formal review with respect to said particular condition and each corresponding [[said]] comment.

28. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 27 wherein the instruction step (a) of preparing said document for interactive review causes the processor to:

i)   selectively retrieve said document for review; and

ii)   format said document, individual said blocks of text being identified for comment in said formatted document.

29. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 28 wherein said document is a text file and said formatting step ii) causes said processor to identify individual blocks of text in said text file for comments and further, build a comment file, comments provided on said blocks of text being contained in said comment file.

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Amendment in response to   Atty Dkt No.: 2001P18375US
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30. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 28 wherein said document is source code and said formatting step ii) causes said processor to identify individual lines of source code for comments and further, build a common file, comments provided on said lines of source code being contained in said comment file.

31. (previously presented) A computer readable medium as in claim 27 wherein documents are located in a central repository and the step i) of selectively retrieving said document causes the processor to connect over the Internet to said central repository and access said document.

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